NEW ORLEANS

DA Ordered To Quit Trial Of Former Aide

S-1 4/7/69

Criminal District Judge Matthew S. Braniff ruled today that District Attorney Jim Garrison must recuse himself in the case of one of his former aides.

The judge acted on a motion filed March 20 by an attorney for Tom Bethell, the former London school teacher accused of showing the state's trial memorandum in the Shaw case to one of Shaw's attorneys, Salvador Panzeca.

Assistant DA James L. Alcock today responded to the motion by attorney Herbert J. Garon, taking issue with its wording but agreeing to accept the appointment of an ad hoc DA by Judge Braniff to prosecute the case.

The judge did not indicate when he will make the appointment.

Alcock attacked Garron's motion saying it "raises questions not of the district attorney's fitness to serve, but of counsel's fitness to practice law."

Garon had charged Garrison had a personal interest in the case.